

CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
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DWORY CHEMICAL COMBINE EXPANDS UNDER SIX-YEAR PLAN

The chemical combine in Dwory near Oswiecim (also referred to in the same article as the Oswiecim plants, and the Dwory Chemical Plants) is to be the largest investment in the Polish chemical industry under the Six-Year Plan. As to size, the project surpasses the size of the prewar chemical factories in Chorzow and Moscice many times. Under the Six-Year Plan, the plants in Chorzow and Moscice will also be notably expanded.

A detailed inspection of the chemical plants in Oswiecim would take 10 to 20 days. Even a cursory visit impresses one with the youth of the employees. The plants are staffed with newly graduated young engineers.

With the exception of the oxygen plant, which uses only air as its raw material in the production of liquid air, all the Oswiecim chemical plants use one of two groups of raw materials in their production: (1) coal, water, and air; or (2) coal and lime.

Water gas, from one, is produced in a multistoried factory. The gas is piped to another plant where it is desulfurized. It is then processed with catalyzer reactors to form a liquid from which gasoline is distilled.

The greatest problem is the production of a suitable catalyzer. Inasmuch as the properties of Polish infusorial earth differ from German infusorial earth used in German production, German production experience was not applicable. A special factory, equipped with its own separate laboratory, produces the catalyzer. Based on Polish research, a new synthesis division will be activated shortly with several times the present production capacity.

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One chemical plant in Oswiecim produces, on a large scale, trichloroethylene which is used to extract fats and for dry cleaning. Another plant produces chlorobenzene used as an intermediate in the production of dyes. Both plants will double their production in the course of a year, enabling Poland to export these commodities.

Calcium carbide is produced from coal and lime. Acetylene, produced from calcium carbide, is used for organic synthesis heretofore unknown in Poland. Pleasing aromas of raspberry juice, almonds, etc., pervade these plants.

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